Application No. 10/002,417
Amdt. dated May 5, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 5, 2004
Docket No. 1506-1004-1

REMARKS

This application has been amended in a manner that is believed to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 1-12, 14-48 and 65 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-12 and 14-48 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the present invention. Support for the amended claims can be found in the present specification at page 8, lines 25-30; page 13, lines 1-17; and page 16, line 5 to page 20, line 2. New claim 65 has been added to vary the scope of the claimed invention. Support for claim 65 can be found in the original claims.

In the outstanding Official Action, claims 1-12, and 14-48 were rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, for allegedly not satisfying the enablement requirement. Applicants believe the present amendment obviates this rejection.

In imposing the rejection, the Official Action alleged that the present disclosure was not enabled for any claims directed to any and all starches. However, claims 1-12, 14-48 and 65 recite a starch in granulated form having a reduced surface available for enzymatic degradation. The granulated form delays the enzymatic degradation of the starch and its reducing sugars. Moreover, the claims recite that the starch is native

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cornstarch. Thus, applicants believe that the present amendment obviates the enablement rejection.

Claims 1-48 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants believe that the present amendment obviates this rejection.

The outstanding Official Action rejected the claims for reciting the term "a predetermined amount of starch". The claims have been amended and drafted so that this phrase is no longer recited. As a result, applicants believe that this rejection has been obviated.

Thus, in view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, with claims 1-12, 14-48 and 65, as presented. Allowance and passage to issue on that basis are accordingly respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

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overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R.§1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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